

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

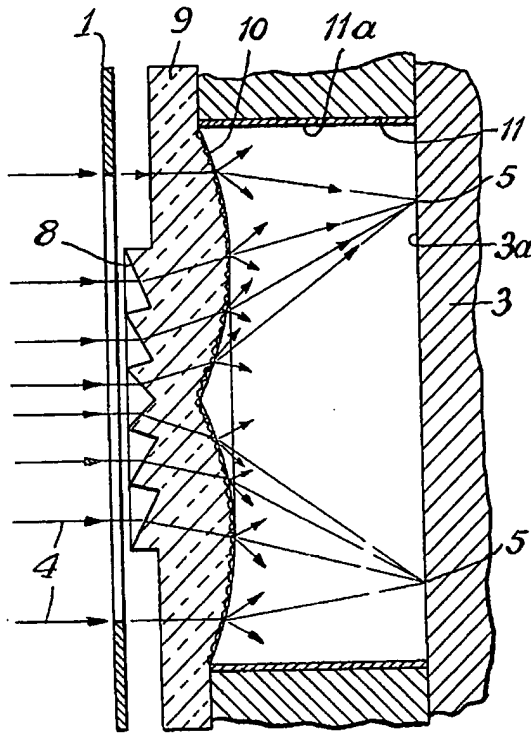
The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed September 4, 2007. Claims 1-14 are currently pending in this application. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,162,766 to Ploke (hereinafter referred to simply as “Ploke”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

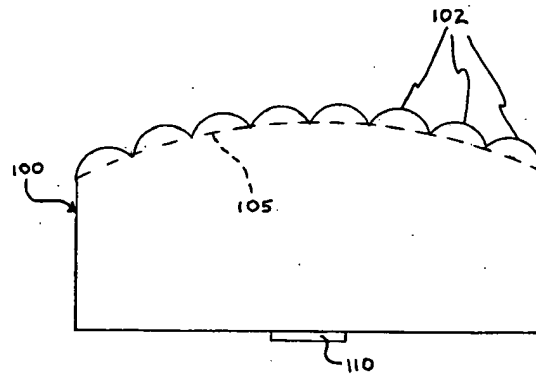
Nowhere does Ploke teach or suggest a plurality of lenses superimposed on the surface of a larger lens as recited in claim 1. Rather, regarding FIG. 2 (the figure referred to in the office action), Ploke discloses at column 3, lines 7 – 13:

“The lens 9 is constructed on its face 8, which is directed toward the incoming light rays, in the form of a Fresnel or stepped lens, while the face 10 of lens 9, which is directed away from the incoming light rays, is constructed in the form of an area having an annular cambered portion and the like.”

Ploke’s lens differs from the recited lens in that the different faces of the Ploke lens (face 8 and face 10) are on opposite sides of the same lens (9). In contrast, in the recited optical element, a plurality of lenses is superimposed on a larger lens. Placing two faces on opposite sides of a lens (as in Ploke) is vastly different from the structure of the optical element recited in claim 1 wherein a plurality of lenses is superimposed on a larger lens. This difference is clear from a comparison of Fig. 2 of Ploke with Fig. 5 of the present application.



Ploke Fig. 2 with faces 8, 10 on opposite side of lens 9



Presently recited optical element 100 with plurality of lenses 102 superimposed on surface 105 of larger lens

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3 and 8 as being anticipated by Ploke is deemed appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ploke in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,173,179 to Nicoletti et al. (hereinafter referred to simply as "Nicoletti"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The deficiencies of Ploke are noted above. Nicoletti does not and is not cited in the Office Action as curing the above-noted deficiencies of Ploke. Rather, Nicoletti is merely cited as disclosing the use of a mirror or prism to direct light. In view of the

foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 and 5 as being obvious over Ploke in view of Nicoletti is deemed appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 7, 9-11 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ploke in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,696,637 to Lawheed (hereinafter referred to simply as "Lawheed"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The deficiencies of Ploke are noted above. Lawheed does not and is not cited in the Office Action as curing the above-noted deficiencies of Ploke. Rather, Lawheed is merely cited as disclosing the use of an array or plurality of optical elements and solar cells coupled together with one housing. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6, 7, 9-11 and 14 as being obvious over Ploke in view of Lawheed is deemed appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Claims 12 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ploke in view of Lawheed as applied to claims 6, 7, 9-11 and 14, and further in view of Nicoletti. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The deficiencies of Ploke are noted above. Lawheed and Nicoletti do not and are not cited in the Office Action as curing the above-noted deficiencies of Ploke. Rather, Lawheed is merely cited as disclosing the use of an array or plurality of optical elements and solar cells coupled together with one housing. Nicoletti is merely cited as disclosing the use of a mirror or prism to direct light. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 12 and 13 as being obvious over Ploke in view of

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Lawheed and further in view of Nicoletti is deemed appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 have been rejected on ground on nonstatutory obvious type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,700,055 to Barone (hereinafter referred to simply as "Barone") in view of Ploke. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action admits Barone discloses "all the features of the presently claimed invention except for the optical element having a plurality of lenses superimposed on the surface of a larger lens." Ploke is cited in the Office Action as curing the deficiencies of Barone, however, as noted above Ploke fails to teach superimposing one lens upon another, but rather discloses placing two faces on opposite sides of a lens. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection on ground on nonstatutory obvious type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of Barone in view of Ploke is deemed appropriate and is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, such early and favorable action being earnestly solicited.

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If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will be helpful in advancing prosecution of the present application, he is respectfully invited to call the undersigned at 631-501-5709.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. DeLuca', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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